

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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SUBSISTENCE SET GILLNET FISHING SCHEDULE WEST OF CAPE NOME

Set gillnet fishing time in Nome Subdistrict marine waters west of Cape Nome is now expanded to 5 days a week from 6 p.m. Monday to 6 p.m. Saturday. The marine waters east of Cape Nome remain open 7 days a week. The fresh water subsistence areas set gillnet schedule will remain the same with fishing periods from 6 p.m. Monday to 6 p.m. Wednesday and from 6 p.m. Thursday to 6 p.m. Saturday. Beach seining is allowed during the subsistence set gillnet fishing schedule.

The Nome Subdistrict escapement range goal of 23,000-35,000 chum salmon will be easily exceeded this year. The NESEDC crew at Eldorado River weir has already counted 11,000 chum salmon and that exceeds the escapement goal range of 6,000 to 9,200 chum salmon. Historically, mid-July is average midpoint of the chum salmon run at Eldorado River weir. At Snake River, 800 chum salmon have passed the weir. The escapement goal range at Snake River is 1,600 to 2,500 chum salmon. At Nome River, 1,150 chum salmon have passed the weir. The escapement goal range at Nome River is 2,900 to 4,300 chum salmon. Mid-July is average first-quarter point of the chum salmon run at both Snake and Nome weirs. Nome and Snake rivers are the index rivers for escapement west of Cape Nome and with both projected to reach escapement goal ranges the department is expanding to 5-day a week subsistence set gillnet fishing schedule west of Cape Nome. Normally this schedule does not go into effect until July 26 when the department switches to silver salmon management. Beach seines can be used during the set gillnet fishing schedule in Nome Subdistrict until the department switches to silver salmon management.

Here are the escapement counts in Norton Sound this season:

North River: 100 kings, 1,500 chums, 4,000 pinks
Unalakleet River: 500 kings, 54,000 chums, 4,500 pinks, 100 reds, 70 silvers
Shaktoolik River: 2,000 kings, 36,000 chums, 12,000 pinks
Inglutalik River: 3,400 kings, 32,000 chums, 28,000 pinks
Kwiniuk River: 9 kings, 4,500 chums, 1,500 pinks
Solomon River: 360 chums, 90 pinks
Eldorado River: 11,000 chums, 25 pinks
Nome River: 1,150 chums, 800 pinks
Snake River: 800 chums, 200 pinks
Glacial Lake: 2,000 reds
Pilgrim River: 4 kings, 3,800 chums, 100 pinks, 7,800 reds